

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LOBBYING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2006

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the House message to accompany S. 2349 to provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

S. 2349

*Resolved*, That the bill from the Senate (S. 2349) entitled "An Act to provide greater transparency in the legislative process", do pass with amendments.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate disagree with the House amendments, request a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees at a ratio of 3 to 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chair appointed Mr. LOTT, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. DODD, and Mr. INOUE conferees on the part of the Senate.

#### NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 450.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 450) to designate June 2006 as National Safety Month.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 450) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 450

Whereas the mission of the National Safety Council is to educate and influence citizens of the United States to adopt safety, health, and environmental policies, practices, and procedures that prevent and mitigate human suffering and economic losses arising from preventable causes;

Whereas the National Safety Council works to protect lives and promote health with innovative programs;

Whereas the National Safety Council, founded in 1913, is celebrating its 93rd anniversary in 2006 as the premier source of safety and health information, education, and training in the United States;

Whereas the National Safety Council was chartered by Congress in 1953, and is cele-

brating its 53rd anniversary in 2006 as a congressionally-chartered organization;

Whereas even with advancements in safety that create a safer environment for the people of the United States, such as new legislation and improvements in technology, the unintentional-injury death toll is still unacceptable;

Whereas the National Safety Council has demonstrated leadership in educating citizens of the United States on how to prevent injuries and deaths to senior citizens as a result of falls;

Whereas citizens deserve a solution to nationwide safety and health threats;

Whereas such a solution requires the cooperation of all levels of government, as well as the general public;

Whereas the summer season, traditionally a time of increased unintentional-injury fatalities, is an appropriate time to focus attention on both the problem and the solution to such safety and health threats; and

Whereas the theme of "National Safety Month" for 2006 is "Making Our World A Safer Place": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2006 as "National Safety Month"; and

(2) recognizes the accomplishments of the National Safety Council and calls upon the citizens of the United States to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

#### RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF FORMER SENATOR LLOYD BENTSEN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 489, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 489) relative to the death of Lloyd Bentsen, distinguished member of the United States Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, the distinguished elder statesman, Senator Lloyd Bentsen, passed away today in his family home in Houston at the age of 85. He leaves behind his wife Beryl Ann and his three children, Lloyd III, Lan and Tina, and seven beloved grandchildren. He also leaves behind almost four decades of dedicated public service on behalf of Texas and the American people.

Alternately described as elegant, courtly, smooth, and collegial, Lloyd Bentsen of Rio Grande Valley was the picture of a Senator. A shrewd legislator with finely honed negotiating skills, he was able to work with both sides of the aisle and gain the trust and cooperation of his colleagues.

Senator Bentsen began his life in public service in 1942 when, fresh out of the University of Texas Law School, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. The war was on, and he was eager to serve his country.

After a brief stint as a private in intelligence, the young Bentsen became a

combat pilot. He began flying B-24 missions over an embattled Europe. By the time he was done, he had flown 50 missions and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three oakleaf clusters. He retired a colonel in the Air Force Reserves.

Still a young man in his early twenties, he returned to his hometown, where he practiced law for a year. He then became a county judge at the age of 25, and in 1948 he ran for Congress, where he served for three consecutive terms. He took a 16-year hiatus from elected office to become a successful financier. Then, in 1970, Lloyd Bentsen ran for the Senate, where he rose to national prominence. In 1988, Democratic Presidential nominee Michael Dukakis selected the distinguished 67-year-old as his running mate, and in 1993, President Clinton nominated Senator Bentsen to serve the Department of Treasury. He led that Department and he retired in 1994, nearly 30 years in public office.

Over his long career, Senator Bentsen earned the respect of his colleagues and of the American people. He was an old-school gentleman who could don his partisan hat and share a respite from the day-to-day battles on the Senate floor. I came across a quotation of his, not as famous as another but one which I think sums up his lifetime in public service and one which is a valuable motto for us all:

It should be clear by now that serious problems cannot be solved by public relations; they can only be solved by public responsibility.

Lloyd Bentsen's words.

On behalf of the Senate and the American people, our hearts go out to the Bentsen family. We join them in mourning the passing of a noteworthy statesman. May God bless them, and may God bless America.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, today we mourn the loss of a great Texan and a true American hero. Lloyd Bentsen passed away this morning, and I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of a great statesman.

Senator Bentsen served this Nation in numerous capacities. Everyone in Texas knew who Lloyd Bentsen was during all of the time that I was in my early years of public service. Many in this body also served with him and knew him well. He put his stamp on Texas, and he put his stamp on our country.

Lloyd Bentsen was born in Mission, TX, in 1921, in the southernmost part of our State. He attended public schools and graduated from the University of Texas Law School in 1942. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II. He flew more than 200 bombing missions to liberate Europe from the Nazi grasp. For his heroic service, he was awarded the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, as well as the Distinguished Flying Cross for valor in combat. He retired with the rank of colonel from the Air Force Reserve.